

Subpart B—Establishment of Two Mandatory Ship Reporting Systems for the Protection of Northern Right Whales

§ 169.100 What mandatory ship reporting systems are established by this subpart?

This subpart prescribes requirements for the establishment and maintenance of two mandatory ship reporting systems for the protection of the endangered northern right whale (also known as the North Atlantic right whale). These two systems are designated for certain areas of the East Coast of the United States. One system is located in the northeast and is identified as WHALESNORTH. The other system is located in the southeast and is identified as WHALESSOUTH.

NOTE: 50 CFR 222.32 contains requirements and procedures concerning northern right whale approach limitations and avoidance procedures.

§ 169.102 Who is the shore-based authority?

The U.S. Coast Guard is the shore-based authority for these mandatory ship reporting systems.

§ 169.105 Where is the northeastern reporting system located?

Geographical boundaries of the northeastern area include the waters of Cape Cod Bay, Massachusetts Bay, and the Great South Channel east and southeast of Massachusetts. The coordinates (NAD 83) of the area are as follows: from a point on Cape Ann, Massachusetts at 42°39'N, 70°37'W; then northeast to 42°45'N, 70°13'W; then southeast to 42°10'N, 68°31'W; then south to 41°00'N, 68°31'W; then west to 41°00'N, 69°17'W; then northeast to 42°05'N, 70°02'W, then west to 42°04'N, 70°10'W; and then along the Massachusetts shoreline of Cape Cod Bay and Massachusetts Bay back to the point on Cape Anne at 42°39'N, 70°37'W.

§ 169.110 When is the northeastern reporting system in effect?

The mandatory ship reporting system in the northeastern United States operates year-round.

§ 169.115 Where is the southeastern reporting system located?

Geographical boundaries of the southeastern area include coastal waters within about 25 nautical miles (45 kilometer) along a 90-nautical mile (170-kilometer) stretch of the Atlantic seaboard in Florida and Georgia. The area coordinates (NAD 83) extends from the shoreline east to longitude 80°51.6'W with the southern and northern boundaries at latitude 30°00'N and 31°27'N, respectively.

§ 169.120 When is the southeastern reporting system in effect?

The mandatory ship reporting system in the southeastern United States operates during the period beginning on 15 November and ends on 16 April of each year.

§ 169.125 What classes of ships are required to make reports?

Each ship of 300 gross tons or greater must participate in the reporting systems, except government ships exempted from reporting by regulation V/8–1(c) of SOLAS. However, exempt ships are encouraged to participate in the reporting systems.

§ 169.130 When are ships required to make reports?

Participating ships must report to the shore-based authority upon entering the area covered by a reporting system. Additional reports are not necessary for movements made within a system or for ships exiting a system.

§ 169.135 How must the reports be made?

(a) A ship equipped with INMARSAT C must report in IMO standard format as provided in Table 169.140 in § 169.140.

(b) A ship not equipped with INMARSAT C must report to the Coast Guard using other means, listed below in order of precedence—

(1) Narrow band direct printing (SITOR),

(2) HF voice communication, or

(3) MF or VHF voice communications.

(c) SITOR or HF reports made directly to the Coast Guard's Communications Area Master Station Atlantic (CAMSLANT) in Chesapeake, VA, or